



September 14, 2022

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Office of the
Secretary

Office of Tribal
Relations

1400 Independence
Avenue, SW
Room 501-A
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Washington, DC
20250

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Dear Tribal Leader:

Hihanni wasta, greetings. On behalf of the Secretary, in coordination with the Under Secretary of Natural Resources and Environment, Dr. Homer Wilkes and Forest Service Chief Randy Moore’s trip to the Black Hills in early October, you are cordially invited to participate in a consultation on the Black Hills National Forest (agenda forthcoming). This consultation will be held in person, with a virtual option as well.

What: Tribal Consultation on the Black Hills National Forest

Date: Friday, October 7, 2022

Time: 3:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. MT

Location: Rapid City, South Dakota (To be provided)

RSVP. All attendees, including those attending in person, must RSVP to the USDA Office of Tribal Relations (OTR) at Tribal.Relations@usda.gov.

Attendance. COVID protocols for in person attendance will be provided to all registered attendees in advance of the meeting.

Proxies. This is a government-to-government consultation. In the event you or an elected tribal official cannot attend and wish to send a proxy, please notify OTR by Tuesday October 4, 2022. To designate a proxy for this meeting, please copy the attached delegation form to tribal letterhead. This designation will authorize your designee, in writing, who will attend in your place and the estimated time of your absence. The delegation cannot be in perpetuity. You are also encouraged to bring program leadership and staff from your nation to the tribal consultation as observers.

Updated information, including an agenda and specific location, will be emailed to all registrants and posted on the OTR website at: <https://www.usda.gov/tribalrelations/tribal-consultations>.

Please contact Tribal.Relations@usda.gov for questions. Thank you for your time and consideration. I look forward to joining you.

Lila wopila (much thanks),

Heather Dawn Thompson (*Cheyenne River Sioux*)
Director, Office of Tribal Relations

Attachments (1):

- 1. Tribal Leader Proxy Template